GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1101
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2016
Reducing Soldiers at Siachen
Singh Shri Lallu

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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(a) whether keeping in view the death of the soldiers in glacier in Siachen in February and the adverse conditions of this region the Government proposes to hold talks with its neighbouring countries so as reduce the number of soldiers deployed in this region;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the time by when the talks are proposed to be held?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (c) The Government is committed to addressing all outstanding issues with Pakistan through bilateral peaceful dialogue, as envisaged in the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration. Following talks between National Security Advisors of India and Pakistan in Bangkok on 6 December 2015, which focused inter alia on peace and security, terrorism and tranquility along the Line of Control, both sides had agreed on 9 December 2015 to a Comprehensive Bilateral Dialogue on all outstanding issues, including that of Siachen. Foreign Secretaries of the two countries have been in touch with each other to hold talks for working out modalities and schedule of the meetings on various subjects covered by the Dialogue.